

From: Brian Meyer
To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I do not understand why you are letting microsoft off so easy. Netscape is dead with no innovation in the last few years since aol "purchased them". (And why would aol want a browser, they are competing against browsers. A Company with 88% market share is a monopoly. They crush opponents with lawyers, vaporware. The original software code of windows was stolen wholesale from apple, and from this apple extorted them to support the apple platform with office. They create risk for all entrepreneurs in that they have no qualms about stealing their ideas, but they do not keep running with it, they drop it once the entrepreneur gives up. The innovations they have destroyed have made america stagnate.

Our laws say monopolies are bad and i feel the law is right about this. I believe in business men being able to compete but a natural dominance is 70% market share. Above that and you can gouge the consumer. \$250+ per upgrade, excuse me, this is a software program. Who can afford Office?...Or should i say who can afford not to afford it. What happened to wordPerfect. They use the fact that hardware is now as expensive as a toaster to hide their huge markup. PC's should be will beneath 500 for a complete system at this point.

I feel an extremely pro business establishment is turning a blind eye to their monopoly. Their products are poorly written, buggy, prone to hackers and viruses that are extremely easy to write. This causes extreme dangers to american businesses that are dependant on these machines. Competition has been lacking for quite a while and the only group that can restore it is the government.

Yes there are some good points in what they have done, but we would be much better off with a true remedy to a monopoly, the appointment of a governing body to guard the public, a general breakup of the same, or extreme restrictions that cause rapid loss of market share.

The entire settlement is a joke, very political, and will have a serious effect on the prosperity of our country.

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